

MAR 05 2015

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO OFFER COURSES IN
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE.

1 WHEREAS, the number of public high schools offering courses
2 in American Sign Language grew 1,248 percent from 1992 to 2004;
3 and
4

5 WHEREAS, American Sign Language is now the fourth most
6 studied language in America; and
7

8 WHEREAS, the Department of Education does not offer courses
9 in American Sign Language; and
10

11 WHEREAS, public school students with deaf siblings or other
12 family members would benefit from American Sign Language
13 instruction in public schools by having the opportunity to
14 acquire American Sign Language skills in an educational setting,
15 thereby improving their ability to communicate with deaf family
16 members; and
17

18 WHEREAS, fluency in American Sign Language is a marketable
19 skill; now, therefore,
20

21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the
23 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
24 Education is requested to establish courses for the instruction
25 of American Sign Language in at least one high school per
26 complex area; and
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education
29 submit a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days
30 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2016 on the
31 status of establishing American Sign Language instruction in the
32 public schools; and
33



S.C.R. NO. 41

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
3 Board of Education and Superintendent of Education.
4
5
6

OFFERED BY:

Michelle Indani

Will Ego

Clarence K. Michelson
Breene Hunt

Will

Dauntey

2

